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Letter, 1957 June 7, [Fritz Marti] to State Department of Education

Fritz Marti

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June 7, 1957

State Department of Education,
Columbus 15, Ohio.

In re: Accreditation.

Dear Sirs:

Having operated our Berglihof School in Lower Salem, from 1947 to 1956, as a very small boarding school with an enrolment of about a dozen, and having turned it into the present country day school, we are at the end of our first year in Dayton. The parents of our pupils say this year has been very successful, evoking in our pupils the desire to learn and the willingness to work. We started with 15 pupils and 3 teachers and wound up with 28 pupils and 4 teachers. For fall we shall probably have as many as 40 pupils and should then have 5 or 6 teachers. We require psychological tests for entrance, and we accept only pupils of high average ability or better. This year more than half of our pupils were above the seventh grade. With one exception, a little girl from Cleveland, all our pupils came from this area, the farthest from Lebanon and Middletown.

At Lower Salem, we had mostly out of state pupils. That, and the very smallness of the school never brought up the question of evaluation or accreditation. Schools to which our pupils transferred always took at face value our recommendation, and every transfer performed at the level we suggested for him, and with the quality we predicted.

Now that the school is larger - though our maximal enrolment will presumably be below 100 - and that the first year has firmly established us, we are justified in making inquiries and putting before you the following request for information and advice.

What is the present situation with regard of acquiring status as an "associate school", such as you print in the Educational Directory? What is the proper procedure? What are the requirements? Is it to be presumed that things will change substantially when the State Board gets to issuing rules for highschools? Any advice you may have will be thoroughly appreciated. Sincerely,